Appl. No. Filed : 10/753,105

January 7, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-12 (Canceled)

13. (Currently amended) A method of forming a key hiding device, comprising:

providing a pop-up sprinkler having a cap and a housing;

removing the cap from the housing;

removing <u>substantially all</u> sprinkler parts from inside the housing so as to form a cavity therein adapted to receive a key; and

placing a key in the cavity so as to conceal the key from view.

- (Original) The method of Claim 13, wherein the sprinkler stem inside the housing is removed.
- 15. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 13, further comprising reattaching the cap to the housing, and affixing the device to the ground with the cap disposed substantially flush with the upper surface of the ground.
- (Currently amended) The method of Claim 13, further comprising positioning the device adjacent to a plurality of other-conventional functional pop-up sprinklers.
- 17. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 13, further comprising positioning the devices in the ground adjacent to other pop-up sprinklers.
- 18. (Original) The method of Claim 16, wherein the device is positioned in the front yard of a dwelling.
 - 19. (New) A device for hiding keys or other small devices outdoors, comprising:
- a housing having a base and a sidewall extending upwardly from the base to define a cylindrical cavity therein, wherein housing resembles a pop-up sprinkler housing, wherein the cavity is adapted to store keys and other items, wherein the housing does not contain a pop-up stem that is typically positioned inside pop-up sprinkler housings, thus providing sufficient space for storing the keys and other items:
- a cap detachably engages with the housing, wherein the cap is configured to substantially resemble a sprinkler cap; and

wherein the device is adapted to be positioned outdoors adjacent a plurality of functional pop-up sprinklers so that the device cannot be readily identified.